Southern Gas Pipeline project

937. SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in southern gas pipeline project which is intended to bring the surplus gas from Bombay High to Tamil Nadu; and

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in implementing this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) The concept of the Southern Gas Grid has been accepted in principle. The concept envisages the Transportation of surplus gas from Western Off shore, to be supplemented by imported gas/LNG. The Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation has commissioned a study to assess, inter-alia, the demand for natural gas in the Sothern States.

STD/ISD/PCOs in Hyderabad

938. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ISD/STD/PCOs released in 1994-95 in Hyderabad City;

(b) the total number of ISD/STD/PCOs in operation in Hyderabad as on date; and

(c) the steps proposed to increase the number?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The number of STD/ISD/PCOs released during 1994-95 in Hyderabad Telecom. District is 670.

(b) The total number of STD/ISD/PCOs in operation is 1908.

(c) Recently 690 more STD/ISD/PCOs have been allotted.

Reduction in ISD call Charges

939. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government have any proposal to reduce ISD calling charges for late night calls; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the proposed structure of charge for late night ISD calls?

THE MINISTER OF STATE COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Sir, the ISD calling charges for late night calls have been reduced with effect from 1.6.1995. There is no fresh proposal for further reduction in these charges.

(b) The concessional ISD tariff if available between 2300 hours and 0600 hours on all days. Concessional Pulse rates for Slab I, II & III Zone countries are 2.6 seconds,1.6 seconds and 1.2 seconds respectively as against the normal pulse rates of 2 seconds, 1.2 seconds and 1 second respectively.

New Schemes to Check Crimes in Delhi

940. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there has been a recent spurt in robberies/murders in the Capital especially in South Delhi colonies;

(b) what steps have been planned to check the rise in crimes and whether intensive night-patrolling will be under taken during winter months;

(c) whether the Delhi Police will introduce new schemes like "Neighbourhood Watch" Scheme to enlist the cooperation of and involvement of the citizens/communities in checking crimes; and

(d) whether the authorities will consider introducing a photo-identity card

system for the migrants in Delhi who are engaged hawkers, vendors, labourers, servants etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) The number of incidents of murder and robbery reported during the six months from 1.5.95 to 31.10.95 (month-wise) in the capital as well as in South Delhi colonies (under South & south West districts) is as under:

Month	Murder			Robbery		
	Total Number of cases reported in Delhi	Total Number of Cases reported in South District	Total Number of cases reported in South West District	Total Number of cases reported in Delhi	Total Number of Cases reported in South District	Total Number of cases reported in South West District
May	40	11	3	63	11	2
June	50	7	3	46	11	6
July	45	9	1	51	10	5
August	43	6	6	48	7	5
September	44	13	5	53	10	2
October	49	9	7	55	8	9

(b) The Government has taken serveral steps to check crime in Delhi. These include increased patrolling, posting of pickets at strategic points, strengthening of intelligence machinery, frequent raids at the hideouts of criminals, increased surveillance, coordination meetings with the officials of the neighbouring states, training of police officers in handling modern weapons, introduction of scientific methods of investigation, modernisation of communications network, etc.

Night patrolling during winter months, especially during dark nights, has also been intensified. Mounted patrolling at night has been also intensified. In the outlying areas to check crime by criminal gangs.

(c) Yes, Sir. A Neighbourhood Watch Scheme and a Senior Citizens Scheme have already been introduced in crime-prone areas.

(d) At present, there is no proposal to introduce photo identity card system for the immigrants in Delhi working as hawkers, vendors, labourers, servants, etc. however, servant verification is done and citizens are being encouraged to come forward to have their servants verified.

Loss Incurred By Postal Department Due to Strike

941. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total losses incurred by postal department due to the recent strike by the staff;

(b) what was the main demand of the employees;

(c) whether Government have take any decision in this regard; and